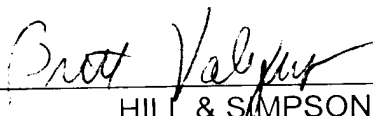


Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application, and therefore, this Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Submitted by,

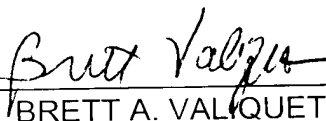


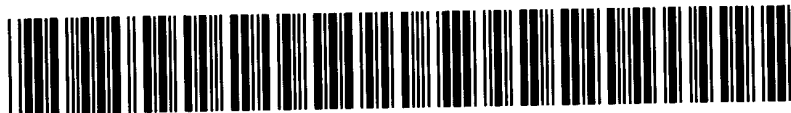
(Reg. No. 27,841)

HILL & SIMPSON
A Professional Corporation
85th Floor - Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312/876-0200 - Ext. 3844
Attorneys for Applicant(s).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 4, 2000.


BRETT A. VALIQUET



Creation date: 20-08-2003
Indexing Officer: RNEFTALIEM - RAHEL NEFTALIEM
Team: OIPEBackFileIndexing
Dossier: 09495710

Legal Date: 08-01-2001

No.	Doccode	Number of pages
1	C.AD ✓	1

Total number of pages: 1

Remarks:

Order of re-scan issued on